

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Fan (U.S. Patent No. 5,926,168). It is respectfully submitted, however, that Applicant's claims are patentable over Fan for the reasons set forth below.

As illustrated by Applicant's Figure 1 (in which an exemplary embodiment of the present invention is illustrated), indicator 4 transmits an ultrasonic signal. Receivers 6a, 6b and 6c receive the signal transmitted from indicator 4. The receivers are coupled to detectors 8a, 8b and 8c which detect peak values of the ultrasonic signals as provided to them by amplifier/band pass filters 7a, 7b, and 7c.

As set forth in Fan, column 8, lines 33-35:

... distances are measured by measuring the time it takes for the sonic waves to travel from transmitters to receivers (emphasis added).

This is different than Applicant's claimed invention. Applicant's invention, as recited by amended claim 1, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by Fan, namely:

... operating means for calculating moving distances in two directions of a pointer . . . based on a varying signal level amount of said first signal received by said first receivers.

This feature is supported by the originally filed Application on page 4, line 6 -25. No new matter has been added.

Thus, while Fan is measuring the time it takes for sonic waves to travel to the receivers, Applicant's claimed invention is instead evaluating signal levels which correspond to Applicant's transmitter. As this feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, claim 1 is patentable over the art of record.

Claims 2 and 3 are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable claim 1.

Appn. No.: 10/041,049
Amendment Dated: December 4, 2003
Reply to Office Action of: September 23, 2003

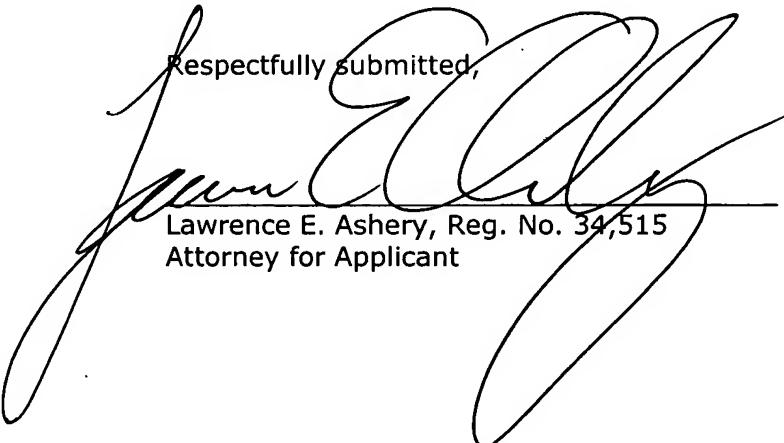
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Claims 4 and 5 have been amended similarly to claim 1. Thus, claims 4 and 5 are also patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth above.

Claims 6 and 7 are newly added. Support for these newly added claims is set forth in the originally filed Application at page 4, lines 11-13. Again, measurement of signal level amount as recited in newly added claims 6 and 7 is neither disclosed nor suggested by Fan. Thus, claims 6 and 7 are also patentable over Fan.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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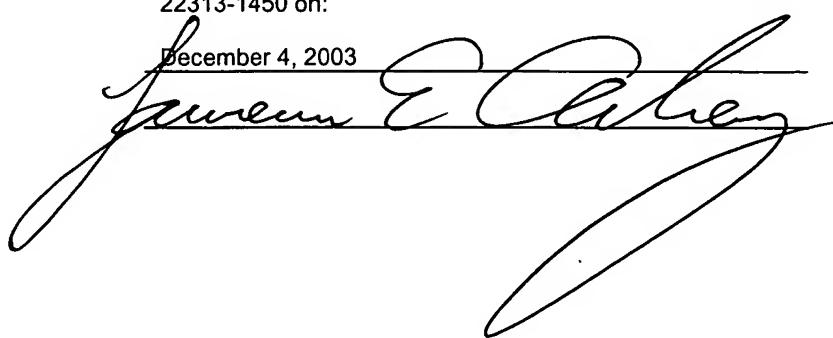
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Dated: December 4, 2003

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